

MEETING OF SHALDEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD Wednesday 14th January 2026 AT 7:30pm

Minutes

Present: Cllr Whitcher (arrived 7:33pm), Cllr Taylor, Cllr Green, Cllr Jones and Cllr Orme (Chair)

Also in attendance: K Horton (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

- 1) **Welcome** Cllr Orme opened the meeting and completed introductions.
- 2) **Apologies for Absence.** None
- 3) **Declarations of Interest.** None made
- 4) **Approval of Minutes.** To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November 2025. No questions raised and duly signed.
- 5) **Public forum.**
 - Placement of new VAS on Old Odiham Road noted and parish council thanked.
 - Request for some hard standing near the noticeboard on Old Odiham Road.
 - Agent for Planning application. Long Barn has been purchased from owner of Home Farm with existing Class Q consent to convert agricultural to dwelling. Existing potato shed is hard to convert in line with desire for carbon neutral and meeting building regulations. Application has the same footage but changes to layout and access with a more natural landscape setting. Applicants are looking forward to moving to parish and becoming involved in village life.
 - Qu. Class Q approval is on existing building. Is application because Class Q does not fit requirements.
 - A. It could get to building standards using current Class Q approval but only just. Would need to build inside and maintain existing access.
 - Qu. Does roof height increase with new application
 - A. About a foot and a half increase in height.
 - Qu. As a new application, this development falls outside planning boundary. How is this positioned?
 - A. 5yr housing supply is only 2.9yr at current so weight given to policies is impacted. Fall back position will be the Class Q conversion: principle of accommodation has been set and this application makes the case for better development for clients and setting.
 - Q. Has road access for construction vehicles and for client been considered? Will improvements be made and/or the road made good?
 - A. If Highways request this then it will be discussed.
- 6) **Vehicle Activated Sign**
 - a) *To receive a verbal report from Cllr Green further to the decision by the Parish Council to purchase its own sign. Sign has gone up and battery is lasting. Solar panel is connected. Data will be collected in due course. Clerk to speak with Highways as post at Alton end is not secure.*

b) *To agree what should be done with the fittings from the trial VAS.* Cllr Green proposed the fittings be gifted to Wield PC, as they will fit their machine. Seconded by Cllr Taylor and all in agreement.

7) **Planning.** To consider a response to the following planning application(s):

a) **EHDC-25-1459-FUL - The Long Barn, Stancombe Lane, Shalden, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 4DY.**

Proposal: *Replacement of existing Class Q approved barn conversion to a dwelling with a new self-build and custom build dwelling and formation of a new access*

Discussion about application details and implications of such development in the parish. Cllrs are aware of Class Q being used for conversion of agricultural buildings and also that EHDC falls short of the required 5yr housing plan. Cllr Orme proposed that the PC support Class Q application but object in principle to this latest application as does not meet planning rules. Further that any decision from EHDC Planning should protect the integrity of the BOAT and any damage be made good. Cllr Taylor seconded and all in agreement.

8) **To consider a request from the Address and Gazetteer Officer, EHDC for feedback and/or suggestions for the name of the road at the housing development at the Golden Pot junction.**

Discussion about proposal and possible alternatives. Cllr Orme proposed Golden Pot Close, seconded by Cllr Jones and all in agreement.

9) **To consider a report from the Clerk and make a decision on whether to install a smart meter on the water supply at the recreation ground.**

Cllrs all supportive of smart meter being installed and any application costs to be covered under Financial Regs.

10) **To review and then accept the following policies**

a) SPC IT Policy

b) SPC Data Retention Policy

Cllr Green proposed the policies be adopted, Cllr Orme Seconded and all in agreement.

11) **Parish Council Finances/Administration**

a) **Clerk's report inc**

i) Updates post November meeting

Highways.

- Golden Pot, proposal for change to speed limit (40mph) is being considered by Hampshire Highways. Consultation has not yet started but Clerk will keep Cllrs informed.
- Speed Enforcement Partnership. Cllrs confirmed not to progress at this time but to reconsider following analysis of data from VAS.
- Purchase of VAS has been added to insurance schedule. Premium of £20.65 was waived on this occasion. Also added to Asset Register (approval at Annual Meeting).
- The Avenue. Query about access by HGV at Golden Pot junction has been raised to Cllr Kemp-Gee and Humbly Grove. Clerk will pursue matter with Hampshire Highways
- The Avenue. Damage to kerb and driveway at Golden Pot junction has been made good by Highways. Resident remains unhappy with the situation.
- Drainage on Shalden Lane by Church carpark. Clerk has contacted SE Water to repair damaged drain cover.

Rights of Way

- Kissing Gate replacement. Cllr Taylor advises work on the stiles on the land behind the church and will update at next meeting.
- Ask Footpath Warden how to escalate concerns in relation to stile at junction of New Oldiham Road and Southwood Road as previously classed as “dangerous”

Admin

- Annual Parish Meeting. To be held between 1 March and 1 June (after 6pm). Cllrs were asked to consider what format they would like the meeting to take for agreement at next meeting.

ii) Correspondence

- Calendar from St Mary’s Bentworth CE Primary School that has been passed to Village Hall for display should they wish

b) Financial summary for November and December 2025 and in addition:

- i) Notification of Payments made under Item 6 of the Financial Regulations since the last meeting
- ii) Notification/authorisation of other payments

No questions raised and summary duly signed.

Cllr Orme proposed the meeting be extended to 9:30pm to allow a full discussion of the next agenda items. All Cllrs in agreement

12) Budget and Precept. To consider a report from the Clerk on the projected financial position of the Parish Council at ye 2025.26 and a review of anticipated financial commitments for 2026.27

- a) To consider the report on the Clerk’s proposed remuneration from 1 April 2026 and to agree whether to approve the recommendation. Cllr Orme proposed the salary increase, Cllr Green seconded and all in agreement
- b) To agree the Budget for 2026.27
- c) To agree the Precept for 2026.27

Clerk provided overview of the reports which clarified the projected year end for 2025/26 and proposed expenses for 2026/27. Cllrs considered whether the parish council should consider focusing on one larger capital project given the CIL monies that had been received and the unlikelihood of receiving similar monies again. Cllrs discussed the restrictions faced by the parish council for financing. The point of whether a building is required at the Rec was considered; benefits to residents and an asset for the parish. Cllrs considered how changes to the precept should be communicated to residents

Cllr Taylor proposed £54,099 as budget (including reserves). Seconded by Cllr Jones and all in agreement

Cllr Taylor proposed £26,000 for the 26/27 precept. Seconded by Cllr Jones and all in agreement

13) Next Meeting - Wednesday 11th March at 7:30pm

Meeting Closed 9:25 pm

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Signed: D Orme, Chair of SPC

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Dated